

Celebrating over 30 Years of Aviation Excellence

WING WATCH

Volume 11, Issue 1

121st Air Refueling Wing

January 2004

Upcoming UTAs

JANUARY 10-11
JANUARY 31 - FEB. 1
FEBRUARY 21-22
MARCH 13-14
APRIL 17-18
MAY 15-16
JUNE 12-13
AUGUST 21-22
SEPTEMBER 18-19
OCTOBER 23-24
NOVEMBER 13-14
DECEMBER 11-12

What's ahead

JANUARY 04:

3-4 SUTA
10-11 UTA/UCI Staff
Assistance Visits
13-15 AMC
COMSEC Inspection
31-1 UTA/UCI
SAVs

FEBRUARY 04:

1 UTA
7-8 SUTA
21-22 UTA
28 HQ Ohio ANG
CC Call (DSCC);
ONGA Winter Dinner
Dance

MARCH 04:

6-7 SUTA
13-14 UTA/UCI
Preparation

**15-19 Week of
Training**

Unit members honored during December formation

Approximately 90 receive awards for service

By Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl, PA

121st members lined up rank and file for an annual awards ceremony Saturday, Dec. 13 in Hangar 885. Unit members that served in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Noble Eagle were honored.

A number of awards were given out to Security Forces personnel. Some members were deployed right after Sept. 11 and remained on active duty for two years.

Senior Master Sgt. Tony Jones of SF were presented with meritorious service medals for their work during the strategic airlift of Al-Queda and Taliban detainees from the Afghanistan combat zone to the internment facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Another SF member in the spotlight was Tech. Sgt. Stephen Shekas. He communicated Air Force needs between Unified and Major Commands, Senior ANG officials, Crisis Action Team members and selected units.

Senior Master Sgt. Lawrence Byers of the Aircraft Generation Squadron earned the Bronze Star for his duties as production supervisor from March 17 to June 15 at a classified location.

"We supported the air refueling missions



By Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl, PA

Staff Sgt. Larry McCormick and other members of Security Forces proudly display their Aerial Achievement Medals during the wing's annual award ceremony in December.

Cont. on page 2

Touch-n-go

New Ohio Chief of Staff announced

Brig. Gen. Homer Smith was announced on Dec. 9 to be the next Chief of Staff of the Ohio ANG. Brig. Gen. Smith will be replacing Brig. Gen. Myron Ashcraft who has been at the position for the past four years.

More books added to wing library

According Col. Robert Boggs, more books were recently added to the Wing Leadership Library. He encourages all to check them out. The library is located in room 212, building 2000 (in the Air Force Advisors Office adjacent to room 212).

Intranet Intel link good intelligence resource

Unit members looking for force protection information can now get it on the

base bulletin board, according to Lt. Col. Larry McWherter (Intel). Simply hit the force protection info link and/or icon on the intranet homepage and members will get the latest unclassified update. Lt. Col. McWherter even encourages members to call Intel and/or stop by in person on the 2nd floor of building 2000 for more specifics (at the classified level). They'll provide updates on CONUS and OCONUS locations.

VA launches "Kid's Page" web site

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced the launch of "VA Kids," a new web page designed to help young people understand what it means to be a veteran. The site, www.va.gov/kids, contains areas for students in kindergarten through grade five, for grades six through 12 and for teachers. VA Kids also has information about the VA, Veteran's Day, scholarships, student volunteer opportunities, rehabilitative and special events for disabled veterans and links to veteran-related sites.

121st to hold spouse incentive flight Jan. 8

The 121st members can now submit their spouse for participation in the Spouse Orientation Flight. One is scheduled for Jan. 8 and there will be more, according to Lt. Col. Kathy Lowrey, the programs coordinator. Unit members may accompany their spouse, space permitting. According to her 20 passengers can be taken per flight, so seats will be awarded on first come first serve basis. Reservation deadline for the next flight is Jan. 2. See Lt. Col. Lowrey for details x 4371.

2004-05 Major Training Events Calendar is out

The 2004-05 Major Training Events Calendar for the wing is out and available on the LAN (Bulletin Board). Some of the highlights are two Week of Training's schedule for March 15-19 and August 23-27 and an Air Mobility Command Unit Compliance Inspection for April 12-18. For detailed information on specialized/ancillary training, see the wing Master Training Plan on the Bulletin Board under "Training."

Awards ceremony (Cont. from page 1)

over there in some pretty austere conditions," he said. He helped merge six aircraft and 44 Ohio ANG maintenance personnel with active duty forces to form a cohesive team.

Sitting in the visitors stand were Kris and Michael Fullerton, the parents of Senior Airman Jodi Fullerton, a boom operator in the 145 Air Refueling Squadron who received an Air Medal. Proud parents to say the least.

We're really proud of all that she has accomplished. From her air refueling to completing tech school, survival school and basic training, she's done a lot at such a young age, said Kris.

Many of the awards given this day would not have been possible if not for the support of family members like Nancy Keller, the wife of Tech. Sgt. Martin Keller of the 145th. His daughter eleven-year-old Elena was present as well to watch daddy receive his Air Medal. Was Nancy ever worried for her husband's safety during his time in theatre?

"Always worried but knew that they were doing their job and doing it well, and were coming home," she said

Airman of the Year awards were presented as well as the Chief's Council awards. Approximately 90 unit members in all were honored for their service.

"These wing members have served their country well," said Brig. Gen. A.J. Feucht. "I am grateful for the combined sacrifices of these members, their families, and their employers."



Family and friends of awards recipients were in attendance for the ceremony.

Commander's Column



Congratulations to every one of you

By Brig. Gen. A.J. Feucht, 121st Commander

It is always a pleasure to round out the year with the personal and professional satisfaction and realization that we have accomplished or exceeded our goals. During 2003, we attained a new level of member recognition and professional achievement, mission accomplishment, and organizational excellence. The wing values of "Excellence and Service" were demonstrated and performed at the highest level by sacrifice,

professionalism and support by you, your families and your employers.

We executed our mission on many fronts. Crews and operations and maintenance experts were mobilized and deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Many volunteered and participated in the east-coast west-coast shuttle, deployed alert at Fairchild AFB, Wash., Operation Noble Eagle, on station JCS (Joint Chiefs of Staff) alert, Operation Enduring Freedom in Geilenkirchen, Germany, and other local and deployed training missions. These major accomplishments were supported by a record setting 7,800 plus flying hours. The historical average is 5,000. The overall wing perstempo was 1,182 TDYs for 96,223 days for an average of 81.4 days served per TDY — outstanding for a

wing with an authorized strength of 1,318. Operations Group tempo averaged 14.8 days/month. During the year, there were no flight class A, B or C incidents and only one ground lost-time injury. This was a total team effort. Trust and attention to detail is required for attainment of this level of performance.

The response to the "call to duty" has precipitated four Bronze Stars, over 50 Air Medals and nine Aerial

Achievement Medals. Over 100 wing UTCs have been validated and certified by the Air Mobility Command Inspector General with only five remaining for full credit toward our ORI. We have received 100% validation and accreditation for Initial Response and ATSO.

At the same time, we maintained a 105% staffing level and a retention rate of 99% (ANG goal is 88%). In residence Primary Military Education attendance rose to 33 (8 in 2001) and awards and decorations to 148 (64 in 2001). The 121st Mission Support Flight was recognized as "outstanding" by NGB

(top 10%) and our environmental program received national awards in quality and recycling excellence.

"Trust and attention to detail is required for attainment of this level of performance"

Over 400 members and guests attended both the 4th Annual Military Ball and Hangar Dance.

All of these record-setting accomplishments were achieved by your professionalism and sense of duty and the support of your families and employers. Be proud of who you are and what you do for your community, state and nation. You are the best and I thank you. I am proud to serve with you and to be your commander.

How well do you know AFI 36-2903?

Test your knowledge about dress and appearance

All answers are based on AFI 36-2903 and can be found on page 4

- 1) Q: What is the correct pants length?
- 2) Q: What is the correct skirt length?
- 3) Q: When is the tie or tab worn (Answer from two places)?
- 4) Q: What is the proper placement of medals on the Mess Dress and what size medals are authorized (Regular or Miniature)?
- 5) Q: When wearing medals or ribbons, what is the proper guidance regarding size, and do you wear some, or do you have to wear all or none?
- 6) Q: What is the guidance for wear of the blue cardigan sweater?

**Your Wing Watch
received the Best Unit
Newsletter Award for
ANG for a flying unit in
the state of Ohio, 2003.
Keep contributing
material so we can
make our paper even
better.**

Reserve and Guard receive unlimited commissary benefits

From DoD News

The Department of Defense announced today that with the president's signing of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004, effective immediately, the following members and their dependents will be permitted unlimited access to commissary stores:

- Members of the Ready Reserve (which includes members of the Selected Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve and Inactive National Guard) and members of the Retired Reserve who possess a Uniformed Services Identification Card.
- Former members eligible for retired pay at age 60 but who have not yet attained the age of 60 and who possess a Department of Defense Civilian Identification Card.

- Dependents of the members described above who have a Uniformed Services Identification Card or who have a distinct identification card used as an authorization card for benefits and privileges administered by the Uniformed Services.

"Instructions have gone out to all

continental U.S. stores informing them that reservists now have unlimited shopping and telling store managers how to welcome members of the National Guard and Reserve to the full use of the commissary benefit," said Patrick Nixon, deputy director of the Defense Commissary Agency. "Commissary shoppers will begin to see banners saying 'Welcome Guard and Reserve to Full Time Savings,' along with other events recognizing these new full-time shoppers."

Guard and Reserve members were authorized only 24 commissary shopping days per calendar year until today when the president signed the National Defense Authorization Act, which contained provisions

eliminating the restrictions. Commissaries have immediately adopted the new provisions, which means Guard and Reserve members will no longer have to present a Commissary Privilege Card when they shop.

For more information about the Defense Commissary Agency, see their Web site at www.commissaries.com.

Answers to dress and appearance quiz from pg. 3

1) Slight break in front, 7/8" longer in back.

Table 2.3, Page 55; or Table 2.1 of AFI 36-2903

2) No shorter than top of kneecap, nor longer than the bottom of kneecap.

Table 2.3, page 55

3) Mandatory with service dress and long sleeves, optional with short sleeve unless Commander states otherwise.

Table 2.1 Long and Short Sleeve Page 36; Table 2.3 Long and Short Sleeve Page 52 Table 2.

4) Center miniature medals between lapel and arm seam and midway between top shoulder and top button of jacket.

Figure 2.6 Page 13

5) Wear regular or miniature Size med-

als and ribbons, except for the Medal of Honor. Do not mix sizes. Wear all ribbons and devices or none at all.

6) The sweater is 50 percent acrylic and 50 percent non-irritation wool; washable; long sleeved, with cuffed or uncuffed sleeves; indoors or out outdoors garment; buttoned or unbuttoned indoors; *must be buttoned outdoors*; when buttoned, sweater will be completely buttoned; tie is optional; wear collar of shirt inside or outside sweater; not exposed when wearing another outer garment. Authorized for wear with blue service uniforms to include maternity. *This answer is NOT in 2903. Can be accessed through the AFPC Uniform Information web page, which is directly linked from the ANG 1st Sergeant web page.*

Wing Views

Do you use a military commissary often?



The last time I visited a commissary was four years ago at Wright-Patterson. It's too far for me to use on a regular basis.

-Master Sgt. Jody Deck, Logistics Readiness Squadron



It's been years since I've been to a commissary.

-Chief Master Sgt. Philip Landes, Maintenance Squadron



I went to a commissary in June in Italy. In the States, the savings is not worth how far I have to drive.

-Staff Sgt. Michael Munn, Civil Engineering Squadron

Reflecting great credit

We salute the following award winners

Editor's Note: We have made every effort to make this list as complete and correct as possible. Please excuse any errors or omissions.

Air Medal



1 Lt Heather Arehart
Maj Trent Edwards
MSgt Paul Emler
TSgt Martin Keller
CMSgt Terry Kerr
Capt Scott Notestine
Maj D. Pennington
MSgt Heidi Rempe
Maj William Roach
1 Lt Kevin Smith
Maj Mark Smith
Maj Corey Wilson
Lt Col William Alford
Maj Brian Batt
Maj Donald Braskett
TSgt Kevin Cartwright

SSgt Nicholas Davis
MSgt Matthew Foster
SRA Jodi Fullerton
Lt Col Michel Goetz
Maj Gregg Hesterman
MSgt William McIver
Maj Kelly Michels
Maj Andrew Mossman
Capt Vickie Quinn
Lt Col Gary Render
Maj Jeffry Sullivan
CMSgt Jack Bishop
Capt Matt Boyle
TSgt Mike Bursk
MSgt Bob Derryberry
MSgt Todd DeVoe
1 Lt Brian Dumond
Maj John Ehrhart
MSgt Sam Given
Maj Gregg Graham
Maj Jeff Greenberg
MSgt Jose Isern
Capt Eric Kaufman
Capt Pat Kelly
Lt Col Rick Kincade
Capt Lance Kollstedt
MSgt Lib Malbon
Lt Col Steve Matacia
SSgt Erin McBride
Lt Col Paul Merlack
TSgt Jeff Morgan
Lt Col Ruben Padro
Maj Mike Peebles

Maj S. Perkowski
Maj Barry Piar
Lt Col Bert Silich
Capt Troy Smith
Maj Todd Standifer
Maj Eric Sullivan
SrA K. Tonnessen
SMSgt Dan Toskin
Capt Victor Wilson

Aerial Achievement Medal



CMSgt Patrick Griffis
SSgt M. Southard
SSgt L. McCormick
TSgt E. Wallace
TSgt Aaron Maynard
TSgt Richard Mendes

SSgt John Haley
MSgt. S. Lazar
TSgt Charles Rudy

Meritorious Service Medal



CMSgt Anita Moran
MSgt Phyllis Paolucci
Lt Col W. Tonnessen
Lt Col M. Lewis
Col Tom Botchie
Col John Tuttle
Col Jim Boling
Col James Nelson
Col Robert Boggs
Lt Col Kathy Lowrey
Maj Teresa Edwards
TSgt Stephen Shekas
SMSgt Tony Jones
TSgt Mandowl Nixon

SSgt Adrian Sizer
SSgt Joseph Mays
SRA Kevin Weller
SMSgt Don Bateson
TSgt Brason Prior
MSgt John Snoke
MSgt E. Bakenhester
Maj Dollison

Bronze Star



CMSgt Bernie Hagl
SMSgt Lawrence Byers
Lt Col Andrew Knapp

Chiefs Awards

Ops - MSgt Eric Shoemaker
MSG - MSgt Kelly Gibbs
Maintenance - SSgt Mary Caudill

Airman of the Year



Airman of the Year:
Senior Airman Rebekah Lind/COMM



NCO of the Year:
Tech. Sgt. Anna Lawless/MPF



Sr. NCO of the Year:
Senior Master Sgt. Richard Runyon/LRS



Lt. of the Year:
2nd Lt. Tanya Jackson/MEDS



1st Sgt. of the Year:
Master Sgt. John Nease/MXG

Chaplain's Corner



Servant Leadership in Action

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Steve Oswalt

A chaplain in my endorsing group, James Henderson, relates the story of an actual incident that took

place recently at Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington as witnessed by Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley:

"The Special Forces soldier had lost his right hand and had suffered severe wounds of his face and side of his body. As SMA Tilley described, how do you honor such a soldier, showing respect without offending? What can you say or do in such a situation that will encourage and uplift? How do you shake the right hand of a soldier who has just lost his? Finally he told how he [Tilley] acted as though the man the man had a hand, taking his wrist as though it were his hand and speaking encouragement to him. But he said there was another man in that group of visitors who had even brought his wife with him to visit the wounded who knew exactly what to do.

This man reverently took this soldier's stump of a hand in both of his hands, bowed at the bedside and prayed for him. When he stood from praying he bent over and kissed the

man on the head and told him he loved him.

What a powerful expression of love for one of our wounded heroes! And what a beautiful Christ-like example! What kind of man would kneel in such humility and submission....?

It was George W. Bush, President of the United States and Commander in Chief of our Armed Forces, a true leader."

Worship Services Schedule

General Protestant Worship: 12 to 12:35 p.m. on Saturday UTAs at the Redtail Dining Facility, Banquet Room

Roman Catholic Worship: 7 a.m. at the Redtail Dining Facility, Banquet Room

Nondenominational/Gospel Service: 8:15 to 8:50 a.m. on Sunday UTAs at the Redtail Dining Facility, Banquet Room

Holiday meal brings a smile

Cooks at the Redtail Angel dining facility did it again as they prepared another great holiday meal including shrimp cocktail, roast beef and pecan pie. Capt. Vickie Quinn couldn't agree more as she prepares to feast.



By Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl, PA



This funded Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for the personnel of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, Ohio 43217. Contents of the Wing Watch are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the Department of the Air Force or the Ohio National Guard. The editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 121st ARW, Rickenbacker IAP, 7370 Minuteman Way, Columbus, OH 43217-5875.

Comdr. Brig. Gen. A.J. Feucht

Vice Cmdr. Col. Robert Boggs

PA Officer 1st Lt. Karen O'Neill

NCOIC Master Sgt. Nancy Dragani

Editor Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl

Wing Watch submissions:

Articles, photos, announcements and other useful information should be submitted to the PA office by 12 p.m. Saturday of UTA for print in next month's issue. Material for submission can be e-mailed to: Wing Watch - 121ARW@ohcolu.ang.af.mil.

www.ohcolu.ang.af.mil

Bulletin Board

The Public Affairs Office is looking for UPARs

UPAR stands for Unit Public Affairs Representative. UPARs are needed to provide story ideas, help escort media, and work with PA in a variety of capacities.

Call the Public Affairs Office at 3408 to learn more about the UPAR program.

Traditional Officer Vacancy Announcements

Intelligence Officer: Announcement No: 121-16-2003; Application deadline extended: 31 Dec 03; Maximum grade: Major

Maintenance Officer: Announcement No: 121-1-2004; Application deadline: 01 Feb 04; Maximum grade: Major

Logistician Officer: Announcement No: 121-2-2004; Application deadline: 01 Feb 04; Maximum grade: Major



Holiday Party 2003!

By Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl, PA

E-6 & ABOVE VACANCY LISTING

AS OF: 11 December 2003

To review your own Military Information on the Virtual MPF log on to this website:

<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/km/vMPF/vMPFHelpHome.htm>

Open Date	Close Date	DutyAFSC	Unit	Duty Title	Rank	Special Instructions
19 Nov 03	30 Jan 04	3A071 MS	Information Management	Craftsmen	MSG	**OPEN
STATEWIDE**						
13 Dec 03	22 Feb 04	2A573A MXS	AvionicsComm/Nav		MSG	Must be a current 2A573A to apply



121st retiree getting around

Don "Pop" Porter, former 121st member and Jr. Vice Commander of VFW post 10523 in Canal Winchester took this photo with Jessica Lynch in September. Lynch, a former POW from the Iraq War who gained national recognition, visited a VFW post in Palestine, West Virg., where Porter and other members were holding a meeting.

Did you know that 121st Tactical Fighter Wing retirees have a newsletter to keep them informed and it's called the "Olde Timers" If you're interested in receiving a copy, write to: 121st TFW Oldetimers; C/O Don Griffith; Ravines at Rocky Fork; 5379 Branscom Blvd.; Westerville, Ohio 43081; include a stamped, self addressed business-sized envelope.

Armed Forces reach million-moved milestone

12/12/2003 - **SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL. (AFPN)** — The U.S. military reached a major milestone recently. More than 1 million troops have been moved (deployments and redeployments) supporting operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

According to 2000 census data, this is like moving every man, woman and child in Montana more than 7,000 miles.

OEF began Oct. 7, 2001, when the U.S. and coalition partners attacked terrorists and their infrastructure in Afghanistan. OIF combat operations began March 19.

Besides this troop-movement milestone, more than 2.75 million tons of equipment and cargo have been moved via air and sea supporting these operations.

Looking at current airlift operations compared to past operations reveals an

even more impressive picture, said Col. Jim Pavlisin, chief of U.S. Transportation Command's joint operations division.

"Our records show the number of passengers moved (supporting) OEF and OIF far exceed the numbers of troops moved for any other operation including the Berlin Airlift, (operations) Desert Shield ... Desert Storm, Restore Hope, Joint Endeavor and operations in Kosovo," Pavlisin said.

Strategic airlift is performed by Air Mobility Command by military aircraft and contracted commercial carriers. More than 90 percent of passenger movements for deployments and redeployments are accomplished in commercial aircraft. Although military aircraft often carry small numbers of troops, they are primarily used for moving cargo, officials said. (Courtesy of USTRANSCOM News Service)



By Tech. Sgt. Greg Rudl, PA

One of the activities at the annual wing holiday celebration was a climbing wall. Here, a unit member assists a climber on his way to the top.

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